

Claims

1. An isolated *Bacillus* strain including:
 - (i) a nucleic acid having a sequence according to SEQ ID NO:1; or
 - (ii) a nucleic acid molecule having at least 97% nucleotide sequence identity with
5 a sequence according to SEQ ID NO:1.
2. An isolated *Bacillus* strain including a genome having at least 70% DNA-DNA similarity to the genome of a *Bacillus* strain according to Accession no. NM03/36700 and a melting temperature that is about the same as the melting temperature of a genome of a *Bacillus* strain according to Accession no. NM03/36700.
- 10 3. An isolated *Bacillus* strain according to Accession no. NM03/36700.
4. A bacteria for suppressing the growth of a fungus produced by the following steps:
 - (a) exposing a strain according to any one of claims 1 to 3 to conditions to produce one or more mutant strains; and
 - 15 (b) selecting a mutant strain that is capable of suppressing the growth of a fungus and that has a nucleotide sequence according to SEQ ID NO:1, or a nucleic acid molecule that has at least 97% nucleotide sequence identity with a sequence according to SEQ ID NO:1.
5. A bacteria for suppressing the growth of a fungus produced by the
20 following steps:
 - (a) exposing a strain according to any one of claims 1 to 3 to conditions to produce one or more mutant strains; and
 - (b) selecting a mutant strain that is capable of suppressing the growth
25 of a fungus and that has a genome that has at least 70% DNA-DNA similarity to the genome of a *Bacillus* strain according to Accession no. NM03/36700 and a melting temperature that is about the same as the melting temperature of a genome of a *Bacillus* strain according to Accession no. NM03/36700.

6. A composition for suppressing the growth of a fungus, the composition being one produced by a *Bacillus* strain according to any one of claims 1 to 5.

7. A process for producing a composition for suppressing the growth of a fungus including maintaining a *Bacillus* strain according to any one of claims 1 to 5 in
5 conditions for permitting the strain to produce the composition.

8. A process for suppressing the growth of a fungus including contacting a fungus with a *Bacillus* strain according to any one of claims 1 to 5, or a composition produced by the strain.

9. A process for treating a fungal infection in a plant or animal including
10 contacting the plant or animal with a *Bacillus* strain according to any one of claims 1 to 5, or with a composition produced by the strain.